

Senate Bill No. 379

CHAPTER 443

An act to amend Section 19596.2 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to horse racing, and making an appropriation therefor.

[Approved by Governor October 10, 2007. Filed with
Secretary of State October 10, 2007.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 379, Denham. Horse racing: out-of-country thoroughbred races.

Existing law provides that a thoroughbred racing association or fair may distribute the audiovisual signal and accept wagers on the results of out-of-state and out-of-country thoroughbred races during the calendar period the association or fair is conducting a race meeting, provided that the total number of thoroughbred races on which wagers are accepted statewide in any given year does not exceed the total number of thoroughbred races on which wagers were accepted in 1998. Existing law further prohibits the total number of thoroughbred races imported by associations or fairs from exceeding 23 per day on days when live thoroughbred or fair racing is being conducted in the state. However, that limitation excludes races imported that are part of the race card of the Kentucky Derby, Kentucky Oaks, and other specified races.

This bill would add the Dubai Cup to the list of imported races not subject to the limitation of 23 races per day.

Under existing law, revenues distributed to the state as license fees from horse racing are required to be deposited in the Fair and Exposition Fund and are continuously appropriated to the Department of Food and Agriculture for various regulatory and general governmental purposes.

This bill would authorize additional wagering, and would increase the amount of continuously appropriated license fees, thereby making an appropriation.

Appropriation: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 19596.2 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

19596.2. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as provided in Section 19596.4, a thoroughbred racing association or fair may distribute the audiovisual signal and accept wagers on the results of out-of-state thoroughbred races conducted in the United States during the calendar period the association or fair is conducting a race meeting, including

days on which there is no live racing being conducted by the association or fair, without the consent of the organization that represents horsemen participating in the race meeting and without regard to the amount of purses, provided that the total number of thoroughbred races on which wagers are accepted statewide in any given year does not exceed the total number of thoroughbred races on which wagers were accepted in 1998. Further, the total number of thoroughbred races imported by associations or fairs on a statewide basis under this section shall not exceed 23 per day on days when live thoroughbred or fair racing is being conducted in the state. The limitation of 23 imported races per day does not apply to any of the following:

- (1) Races imported for wagering purposes pursuant to subdivision (c).
 - (2) Races imported that are part of the race card of the Kentucky Derby, the Kentucky Oaks, the Preakness Stakes, the Belmont Stakes, the Jockey Club Gold Cup, the Breeders' Cup, the Dubai Cup, or the Haskell Invitational.
 - (3) Races imported into the northern zone when there is no live thoroughbred or fair racing being conducted in the northern zone.
 - (4) Races imported into the combined central and southern zones when there is no live thoroughbred or fair racing being conducted in the combined central and southern zones.
- (b) Any thoroughbred association or fair accepting wagers pursuant to subdivision (a) shall conduct the wagering in accordance with the applicable provisions of Sections 19601, 19616, 19616.1, and 19616.2.
- (c) No thoroughbred association or fair may accept wagers pursuant to this section on out-of-state races commencing after 7 p.m., Pacific standard time, without the consent of the harness or quarter horse racing association that is then conducting a live racing meeting in Orange or Sacramento Counties.